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H.V. 9/14/06

#### **Amendment to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

#### **Listing of Claims.**

1. (previously presented)      A method for use with differing metallic electro-mechanical infrastructures of resource-measuring meters, to minimize the effects on the performance of a first RF radiating/receiving element located within one such infrastructure due to its interactions with said such one infrastructure, comprising the step of placing a first metallic structure physically closer to said first RF radiating/receiving element than said such one infrastructure is, wherein said placed first metallic structure is RF radiating/receiving material and said first RF radiating/receiving element is a slot formed in said material, thereby forming a first slot antenna.
2. (previously presented)      The method of claim 1, comprising the additional step of placing a second metallic structure physically closer to a second RF radiating/receiving element than said such one infrastructure is, wherein said placed second metallic structure is RF radiating/receiving material and said second RF radiating/receiving element is a slot formed in said material, thereby forming a second slot antenna.
3. (previously presented)      The method of claim 2, wherein said placing of first and second metallic structures is performed to effect cooperative RF performance of said first and second antennas.
4. (previously presented)      The method of claim 3, wherein the cooperative performance is achieved by locating said first and second antennas so that the dominant null of the RF radiating/receiving element of one antenna is mitigated by the RF radiating/receiving element of the other antenna.
5. (previously presented)      The method of claim 4, wherein said placing of first metallic structure includes (a) the supporting of said first metallic structure with a supporter having dielectric properties that do not adversely affect the performance of said